

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 12 and 13 are amended. No new matter is added by these amendments. Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Based on the Examiner's helpful comments, claims 12 and 13 are amended to recite "A computer-readable medium storing a program for..." Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 6, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 7,143,141 to Morgan et al. (hereinafter "Morgan") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,473,441 to Inuiya et al. (hereinafter "Inuiya"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 calls for a switching unit configured to judge whether the content data received by the substitutional sending/receiving unit is suitable for capabilities of the LAN terminal; configured to cause a transfer unit to operate when judging that the content data is suitable for capabilities of the LAN terminal; and configured to cause the image formation requesting unit to operate when judging that the content data is not suitable for capabilities of the LAN terminal. Claim 11 calls for similar features.

The Office Action admits that Morgan fails to teach the above-mentioned features of claims 1 and 11. Inuiya also fails to teach these features.

The Office Action states that Inuiya, at Fig. 1, col. 5, lines 64-67 and col. 6, lines 1-7, discloses these features. However, what is disclosed is a video camera that can switch between a movie mode (shutter speed selected at 1/60 sec) and a print mode (shutter speed selected at 1/120 sec) for recording a video signal. The video camera can then perform

reproduction processing of the frequency modulated video signal and generate an output signal to a printer or display (col. 6, lines 38-42).

Therefore, the print mode, which is a recording process, does not represent a mode for printing an image on a printing medium (to cause the image formation requesting unit to operate). When the video camera generates the signal output to the printer, the reproduction processing is performed. Thus at the reproduction step, when the signal output is sent to the printer, there is no switching unit disclosed within Inuiya that operates as is called for in claims 1 and 11. There is also no disclosure as to a judgment of whether the video signal is suitable for capabilities of a LAN terminal. Thus, Inuiya fails to teach or suggest the above-noted features of claims 1 and 11.

Claim 12 calls for a requesting unit that requests to form an image based on the content data by inputting the content data to the image forming unit when judging that the content data is not suitable for capabilities of the LAN terminal.

The Office Action admits that Morgan fails to teach the above-mentioned features of claim 12. Inuiya also fails to teach these features.

The Office Action states that Inuiya, at Fig. 1 and col. 5, line 64 - col. 6, line 7, discloses these features. However, what is disclosed is a video camera that can switch between a movie mode and a print mode for recording a video signal. There is no disclosure as to a judgment of whether the video signal is suitable for capabilities of a LAN terminal. Thus, Inuiya fails to teach or suggest the above-noted features of claim 12.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Morgan and Inuiya and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/005312 to Kinoshita; rejects claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Morgan and Inuiya and further in view of JP 2001/236288 to Yamaguchi et al. (hereinafter "Yamaguchi"); rejects claims 2, 5

and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Morgan and Inuiya as applied to claims 1 and 12, and further in view of Kinoshita; rejects claims 3, 4 and 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Morgan and Inuiya as applied to claim 3, and further in view of Yamaguchi; and rejects claims 16 and 17 under U.S.C. §103(a) over Morgan and Inuiya and Kinoshita as applied to claim 14 and further in view of Yamaguchi. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

None of the remaining applied references overcome the deficiencies of Morgan and Inuiya in disclosing a switching unit that judges, whether the content data is suitable for capabilities of a LAN terminal and then causes either a transfer unit or a image formation requesting unit to operate based on such a judgment, as called for in claim 1 and as similarly called for by claims 11, 14 and 18.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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